

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed October 15, 2007, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Entry of the present amendment and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 4 and 8-9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 4 and 8-9 contain allowable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, independent claims 1, 5 and 10 have been amended to include the features of allowable claims 4 and 8 which have been canceled without prejudice, where features that are believed to be not necessary for patentability have been deleted.

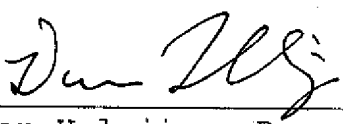
Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1, 5 and 10 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-3 and 6-9 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from amended independent claims 1 and 5.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or

averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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